U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of EDWIN W. SPRINKLE <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, Salisbury, NC

Docket No. 98-1738; Submitted on the Record; Issued August 28, 2000

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before DAVID S. GERSON, WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, MICHAEL E. GROOM

The issue is whether the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs properly terminated appellant's compensation benefits on the grounds that he refused an offer of suitable work.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of the parties on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the decision of the Office hearing representative dated February 20, 1998 and finalized March 4, 1998 is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the Office hearing representative.

The decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated February 20, 1998 and finalized March 4, 1998 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. August 28, 2000

> David S. Gerson Member

Willie T.C. Thomas Member

Michael E. Groom Alternate Member